coupler arrangement for connection of coaches in a train formation. Use of tight lock centre buffer coupler which is an essential element of this design, also provides anti-climbing feature so that in the event of collision, coaches do not pile on top of each other. This also reduces chances of injury and loss of human life.

(c) Based on initial design, one rake has been manufactured and is in service between Amritsar, Barauni and Saharsa. This rake consists mainly of IInd Class coaches as till now, the design details have been finalized only for IInd Class coaches. For other type of coaches, designs are expected to be finalized in next few months. More rakes will be provided with these features progressively.

Reduction in wheat quota for BPL and Antyodaya households

*196. SHRI C. PERUMAL:
MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to reduce the wheat earmarked for Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya households; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the reduced stocks of wheat in the Central pool, a decision was taken to rationalize the allocation of wheat for Below Poverty Line (BPL)/Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) category to each State's average offtake for the last 3 years or the existing allocation, whichever was lower. However, the overall allocation of foodgrains has remained unchanged for BPL/AAY households, as the reduced wheat allocation has been made up by a corresponding increase in rice allocation.

Heritage train in Uttar Pradesh

197. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has